THE TECH

VOL. XXVI. No. 33 BOSTON, MASS., MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1906 PRICE THREE CENTS

LIVELY KOMMERS.

Students have Pleasant Evening in spite of Non-Appearance of Speaker.

Mr. C. Howard Walker, Director of the Museum School of Design, formerly the School of Design of the Lowell Institute, who was to have spoken at the Kommers last Saturday evening, failed to appear and the men were obliged to furnish their own entertainment. Mr. Walker is a special lecturer in the Architectural Department, where he is well known among the students as an extremely interesting and versatile speaker and the committee in charge expected an exceptionally successful evening.

His absence at the beginning of the meal caused no uneasiness, as everyone believed that he would soon arrive, but, as the courses succeeded each other without his appearance, the committee became uneasy and made every effort to get in touch with him. It was not possible to find him, however, and with the dessert D. J. Robbins, '07, was obliged to announce that there would be no speaker that evening and that they must rely on their own ingenuity to supply them with amusement. Many Tech songs were sung during dinner and, after Robbins had made his announcement, the men gathered around the piano and spent the remainder of the evening singing and smoking.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The Editors do not hold themselves responsible for opinions expressed by correspondents.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TECH:

Secrecy is always looked upon with great distrust when employed by men in positions of trust to hide their doings. The other day the writer had occasion to inquire who was the newly elected manager of the Fencing Team. The question was directed to the captain and he answered, although the manager had been elected, his name was not to be made public. When asked the reason for this reticence, no definite reply was to be had, but it was insinuated that it was best, so the manager thought, to conceal his identity from the Faculty.

Now if the Fencing Team has a manager, there is no reason why his identity should be concealed from the Faculty or from the student body, consequently take this opportunity to publicly inquire who he is. What possible motive can he have to conceal his name from the Faculty? Right here lies the mystery which is trying to encloud one of Tech's most popular sports. It has not been customary in the past to have any doings at Tech which even savor of political intrigue. There is no reason why the men in charge of Fencing should feel called upon to introduce any of these petty tricks here. If the man who has been elected manager, and we know for a fact there is such a man, has secured his position in a straightforward manner, why should he try to conceal his identity? If there is any such reason let him sever his connections with the team entirely and let the team secure a man who

(Continued on Page 4.)

DR. VAN DYKE SPEAKS.

Addresses Students at General Convocation on "Manhood."

At a general convocation held Friday at 2 o'clock, President Pritchett spoke of the Christmas holidays, and said that any Tech man who was unable to go home on Christmas Eve would be welcome at that time at the Union, where the usual celebration would be held. He then introduced Dr. Henry Van Dyke, of Princeton, as the speaker of the day.

Dr. Van Dyke took as the subject of his discourse "Manhood." He said in part that to know men is a very valuable gift. It is one which every leader and commander of men must have. And it is also needed by college professors in order that they may know their students. It is possessed by all great writers and painters who portray society to itself.

In alluding to the Negro troops he said that a man must know whether he has reliable men under him or rascals who will band together against rightful authority, to which they have sworn allegiance. to conceal crime among their numbers.

The man who would truly and thoroughly know what is in men must dip down under the externals to find that common life from which all characters are wrought. Courage, penitence, hope, and love; to know these is to know what is in the heart of men. This power was exercised to the full by Jesus of Nazareth, by none before him and by none since. The socialogist and the psychologist have a certain knowledge of human nature, but His was real, due to his personal power of intuitive penetration. This power was due first to His true humanity, and second to his sinless life. Vice perverts ideas and prevents a real comprehension of the heart of one's fellow-creatures. It is the good and pure man who best knows what is in the heart of men.

Christ knew men. What was it that he saw in man? Two things, first, that there is sin that may break out at any time, and must be guarded against constantly, and second, that to offset sin there is in every man more than can be accounted for by psychologist or sociologist; there is a spark of the divine. It links him to a spiritual world by means of which the physical world is transformed. On this scrap of the divine in every man hangs all philosophy.

MINERS TO MEET.

A meeting of the Mining Engineering Society will be held on Monday, Dec. 17, in 2 Rogers, at 1.30 P. M. F. C. Jaccard, 07, will speak on the underground work at the Anaconda mines at Butte, Montana. P. H. Mayer and W. Hastings, '07, will describe and illustrate some of the more interesting places visited and studied this summer on the Mining Summer School trip into Michigan and Wisconsin. Sophomore and Junior miners are urged to be present, as a good insight is obtained of what work they will meet in the next few years.

REHEARSE KOMMERS.

Major Bigelow Entertains Large Party at House in Preparation for Kommers.

The third and last rehearsal of this week's Kommers was held last Saturdry night at the home of Major John Bigelow, Jr,. Professor of French and head of the Modern Language Department.

Major Bigelow is deeply interested in student life and has always lamented the lack of good fellowship at the Institute, which he attributes in a great measure to the paucity of good student songs.

It has seemed particularly appropriate to him at this time, when the Senior Kommers Book Committee has undertaken to revise the old book, to speak to the students about the value of good songs and jovial singing. With this end in view he has decided to hold a Kommers to illustrate his point and bring it forcibly to the notice of the students. He has collected a large number of student songs of all kinds, and, since the German students are famous for their jollity and singing, a large proportion of these songs have been taken from the student "Kommersbuch."

Twelve gentlemen, among whom are Messrs. Lenz, Meister, Vogel, Raabe, F. Hohl, L. Hohl, Sturm, and Ehret, have volunteered to sing on this occasion and they have been practicing their parts assiduously for some time. The final rehearsal took place last Saturday evening and was made the occasion of a very successful entertainment. The songs were encored again and again and promise to make a most successful Kommers Saturday evening. Among the pieces rendered were: "Der Wanderer," "Ergo Bibamus," "Gesellschaftslied," "Bummellied," "Bierlala," "Krambambuli," "Ruckblick eines alten Burchen," "Der Doktor Eisenbart," and "Die Wacht am Rhein."

To make the affair next Saturday one in which everybody can take part the German songs have been printed and bound into a very attractive pamphlet, which may well be preserved as a memento of the occasion. In introducing each song Maj. Bigelow will explain its history and purport and, when necessary, will translate it into English. Only songs with popular choruses have been chosen and it is most earnestly desired that all the students present will join in and help to make the songs go with a vim.

This promises to be the star Kommers of the term and everyone is urged to buy tickets and get the songs while they last. It is especially hoped that the Senior Committee on Song Books will be present in a body as this Kommers is given for their benefit. The price of tickets will be the same as usual and may be obtained either at the Bursar's window or from the Walker Club Committee. The songs are free.

The Ohio State University at Columbus, Ohio, has seventy-five candidates for places on the university debating team.

CALENDAR.

MONDAY, DEC. 10.

1.00 P.M. Institute Committee Meeting in Trophy Room.
1.10 P.M. Tech Board Meeting in 30 Rogers.
4.00 P.M. Banjo Club Rehearsal in 33 Rogers.
4.00 P.M. Mandolin Club Rehearsal in 31 Rogers.
4.15 P.M. Glee Club Rehearsal at the Tech Union.

FACULTY NOTICES.

Dynamics of Machines. — An examination will be held in Dynamics of Machines on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 15, at 2 o'clock, in 20 Eng. A.

Copies of Professor Derr's New Book.— Copies of Professor Derr's New book "Photography for Students of Physics and Chemistry" may be obtained at Maclachlan's.

NOTICES.

Institute Committee.—There will be a meeting of the Institute Committee in the Trophy Room today at 1 P.M.

At the autumn meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, held November 20, 21, and 22, in the new buildings of the Harvard Medical School, Prof. A. A. Noyes read a paper on "The Conductivity, Ionization, and Hydrolysis of Salts in Aqueous Solution at High Temperatures." Gilbert N. Lewis, research associate in Physical Chemistry, delivered a paper on "The Free Energy of Oxidation Processes."

ADDRESSES A. C. C.

At the first regular meeting of the New York section of the American Chemical Society, held recently in New York, Prof. Winslow, of the biological department, spoke "On The Disposal of City Sewage." Prof. Winslow presented the prominent features of the development of sewage treatment in a clear and comprehensive manner, showing numerous slides to illustrate the various types of sewage plants. He indicated the research work now in progress at the Institute sewage experiment station and finally spoke of the latest developments in the purification of sewage.

MISSOURI CLUB MEETS.

The annual dinner and business meeting of the Missouri Club which was held at the Union last Thursday evening was one of the most rousing and enthusiastic the club has ever held. Retiring President J. B. Harlow presided. Dr. Pritchett, who is a Missouri man, was re-elected honorary president of the club. The election for a new president was a close one between E. S. Brown, '08, and W. F. Dolke, '08, and was decided by the two tossing a coin. Brown won and Dolke became vice-president. One of the absent members, A. F. Harold, '09, was elected secretary - treasurer. The club's insert in *Technique '08*, and plans for a Western dinner were discussed. Absent members were fined 50 cents. There were four men present.

THE TECH

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In charge of this issue: G. S. WITMER, 1908

Monday, December 10, 1906.

It is customary for Prexy, the Dean, the heads of courses, and many others in addresses to the Freshmen each year to advise the new men to derive the greatest possible advantage from their four years at the Institute. Almost without exception have these older men advised the Freshmen to get into the college life and to take part in the student activities. That so great an unanimity of opinion exists on this point proves sufficiently that the outside work which a student does while at school is of as much value to him in after life as the things which he learns from his books. Yet with all these words about student activities, how small is the number of the Instructing Staff who will prove to a student by deeds that there is something better in life than mere grinding; and how great is the proportion of teachers who will assign a lesson on Friday with the announcement that the work will be marked zero if not received the following morning, notwithstanding the fact that there may be a class dinner or some other equally important student affair that evening. Consider the number of teachers who assigned lessons on the Thursday or Friday of Field Day week with the lessons due the following day, when they knew for certain that every underclass man and a large number of upperclass men would be at the Field Thursday night and at the theatre Friday evening. The Instructors may say that if the student has a lesson to prepare he should stay at home and prepare it, but, if this is the sentiment of the teachers, why have they put Field Day on Friday, when they know exactly what the result will be? Why do they allow the students to use the Union during the week when a large number of the men present are neglecting some work which is due on the morrow? Everything seems to point to one conclusion: In the abstract the professors believe in giving a student a chance to do something more than grind, but very few of these same professors are willing to depart one iota from the hard and fast rules which they have made for the regulation of their classes. In short they advise the men to rub elbows with their fellows, at the same time placing such obstacles in their way that only a very few, exceptionally clever, men are able to follow the advice with any chance of graduating within the proper time. The obstructions, moreover, are not the lessons themselves so much as the regulations which accompany them.

A Protest.

What does the professor who gives out his problems singly and demands that they be returned by a fixed time on a certain size paper get from his students other than profanity, which the professor who gives out his work once or twice a term to be done sometime in the next six weeks on any convenient paper does not get. After all what difference does it make provided that the problems are neat and are presented in sufficient time for the professor to make out his marks? Perhaps it is a little more convenient for the man who marks the papers, but it is equally inconvenient for the fifty or sixty who do the work.

A student goes to a college or to a technical school to learn to think, to know men, and to absorb a few

(Continued on Page 3.)

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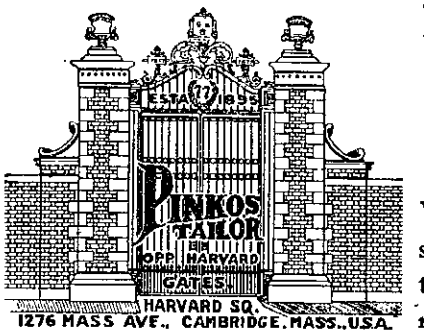

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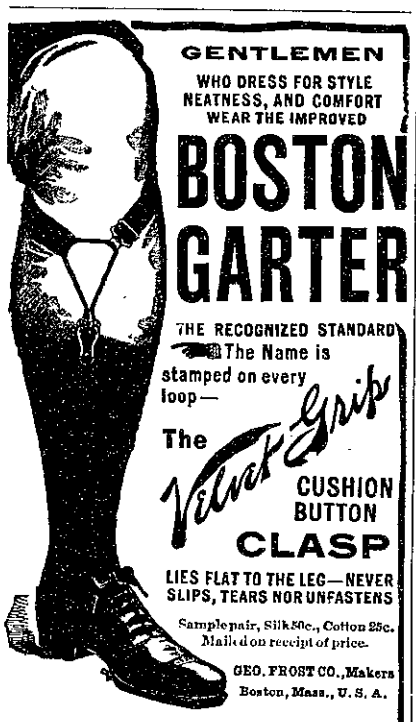

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essential facts; anything that does not bear directly on one of these points is a barnacle on his brain. Moreover, the Tech man has all the work he can do and yet he is trussed with red tape and kept on the verge of nervous prostration remembering whether problem XII 236 or XII 2364 is due at 9.15 Monday or 10.30 Wednesday, or whether after all it is not 10.30 on Monday and 9.15 on Wednesday, or whether perhaps it is not some other day. If some of the professors, who announce publicly that the students have too much to do and then stick on a few more subjects, could hear some student trying to explain to another that the capacity of a biparted hyperbolic paraboloid was equal to the trajectory of La Place's Celestial Mechanics, they would gain some idea of how much people are getting out of their courses.

To sum up, if the members of the Instructing Staff would practise more what is preached, if there was a little less red tape and fewer regulations, if a student was urged more to use his brain and less to push his pencil, there would be less cause for "We are happy," fewer FFs, and some better embryo engineers.

Manager Whitmore of the basketball team has been negotiating with Yale in view of securing a game. When this has been decided the schedule will be complete; at present it is as follows: Dec. 4, Tufts Scrubs at the Gym; Dec. 8, Dartmouth at Hanover; Dec. 15, Lowell Textile at Lowell; Dec. 17, Boston College at the Gym; Dec. 21, Worcester Polytechnic at the Gym; Jan. 9, Brown at Providence; Jan. 12, Williams at Williamstown; Feb. 2, West Point at West Point; Feb. 9, Brown at Providence; Feb. 13, Tufts at the Gym; Feb. 16, Brown at the Gym; Feb. 19, Harvard at Cambridge; Feb. 21, Lowell Textile at the Gym; Feb. 26, Tufts at Medford; March 5, Dartmouth at the Gym.

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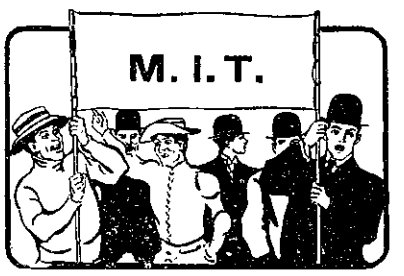

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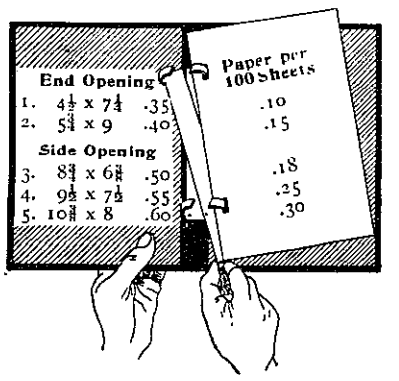

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COMMUNICATION.

(Continued from Page 1.)

is not afraid to pose as the executive head of this popular sport. On the other hand, if he is prompted by modesty to shun the limelight, let him be drawn forth from his seclusion and be introduced to us all; thereby he might arouse our sympathies, rather than our suspicions. At any rate we want the man produced that we may know him.

Or perhaps we know him too well already?

INTERESTED.

SHOT PUT RESULTS.

The shot put, open to the members of the 1910 tug-of-war team, resulted as follows: 1st, Bartlett, 30 feet 7.5 inches; 2d, Kollen, 29 feet 6 inches; 3d, Shaw, 29 feet. Bartlett and Kollen may obtain their medals, the regular bronze "Tech" medal, at the Cage at any time.

The contest did not produce what Tech needs most on its team this year, namely, a good shot-putter. With the exception of this one position, the team promises to be a well balanced one, and it is hoped that any man in the Institute who has any ability in this line, will not hesitate to consult Coach Mahan or Captain Richards both of whom can be found at the Gym any evening after 4 P.M.

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